

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN ALAN OLSON**, on January 17, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Olson, Chairman (R)  
Rep. George G. Groesbeck, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Scott Boggio (R)  
Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D)  
Rep. Dave Gallik (D)  
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Diane Rice (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Bill Thomas (D)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Todd Everts, Legislative Branch  
Cindy Peterson, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 88, 1/11/2007; HB 33, 1/11/2007;  
HB 170, 1/11/2007; HB 244,  
1/11/2007; HJ 4, 1/11/2007

Executive Action: None.

**HEARING ON HJ 4**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:25 Rep. Jill Cohenour (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HJ 4, urge opposition to relaxation of mail delivery standards.

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:53 Janet Kosnik, American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a03\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:09:47 Rep. Cohenour

**HEARING ON HB 244**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:10:45 Rep. Brady Wiseman (D), HD 65, opened the hearing on HB 244, expand promotional activities of telecommunications providers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:12:15 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service  
Commission

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a04\)](#)

00:15:33 Mary Wright, Montana Consumer Counsel

00:16:01 David Gibson, Qwest

00:17:42 Jeff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:18:30 Rep. Wiseman

00:19:19 Break

00:28:23 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 33**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:29:44 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 33, revise 9-1-1 emergency phone system laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:33:42 Jeff Brandt, Information Technology Services,  
Department of Administration

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a07\)](#)

00:44:24 Jim McKeon, Miscellaneous Tax Unit Manager, Department  
of Revenue

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a08\)](#)

00:49:04 Kevin Myhre, Chief of Police, Lewistown, and Montana  
Association of Chiefs of Police

00:53:37 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers  
Association

00:54:55 Cliff Christian, American Heart Association and  
American Stroke Association

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a09\)](#)

00:56:14 Jim Kembel, Montana Chiefs of Police

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:56:53 Aimee Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a10\)](#)

01:02:39 Dennis Lopach, Tracfone

01:05:21 Michael Strand, Montana Independent Telecommunications  
Systems

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a11\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:10:27 Rep. McNutt

**HEARING ON HB 170**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:11:58 Rep. Bill Thomas (D), HD 26, opened the hearing on HB 170, net metering for wind turbines.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:14:26 Alena Nardinger, Nardinger Irrigation

01:20:02 Myrl Nardinger

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:29:44 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

01:31:17 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

01:40:14 Doug Hardy, Montana Rural Electric Co-ops

**Informational Testimony:**

01:41:17 Greg Jergeson, Montana Public Service Commission

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a13\)](#)

01:43:27 Russell Doty, New World Wind Power

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:46:41 Rep. Jones

01:46:55 Mr. Nardinger

01:49:09 Rep. Windy Boy

01:50:09 Rep. Groesbeck

01:51:04 Mr. Flynn

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:53:44 Rep. Thomas

[EXHIBIT\(feh11a14\)](#)

**HEARING ON HB 88**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:56:16 Rep. Sue Dickenson (D), HD 25, opened the hearing on HB  
88, Regulate electrical generation facility waste.  
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a15\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:04:01 Rep. Teresa Henry, HD 96, Missoula  
02:05:28 Ed Thamke, Department of Environmental Quality  
02:10:18 Pamela Morris, Citizens for Clean Energy (CCE)  
02:14:39 Donna Kramer, CCE  
02:17:58 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:20:26 Rep. Jim Keane, HD 75, Butte  
02:22:36 Dan Flynn, IBEW  
02:23:32 Mark Lambrecht, Regulatory Affairs Manager, PPL Montana  
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a16\)](#)  
02:25:59 Tom Ebzery, Puget Sound Energy, Portland General  
Electric, Pacificorp and Avista  
02:27:14 Keith Allen, IBEW, Local 233  
02:28:34 J.D. Lynch, Montana State Buildings Trade  
02:29:21 Duane Mellinger, IBEW, Local 233  
02:29:44 Todd O'Hair, RioTinto  
02:30:23 John Forkan, Montana Association of Plumbers and  
Pipefitters  
02:30:45 Steve Wade, Great Northern Power  
02:31:24 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association

**Informational Testimony:**

02:32:44 Jeff Chaffee, Southern Montana Electric Generation and  
Transmission Cooperative, Inc.  
[EXHIBIT\(feh11a17\)](#)  
02:35:07 Haley Beaudry, Colstrip Energy Limited Partners and  
Yellowstone Energy Limited Partners  
02:37:07 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:40:31 Rep. Windy Boy  
02:42:00 Mr. Thamke  
02:43:41 Rep. Gallik  
02:44:29 Mr. Thamke

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

January 17, 2007

PAGE 6 of 7

02:45:38 Rep. Gallik  
02:46:32 Mr. Chaffee  
02:46:48 Rep. Gallik  
02:48:20 Mr. O'Hare  
02:49:19 Rep. Gallik  
02:50:11 Mr. Chaffee  
02:51:16 Rep. Gallik  
02:52:05 Mr. Chaffee  
02:52:14 Rep. Groesbeck  
02:54:11 Mr. Fitzpatrick  
02:55:40 Rep. Stahl  
02:56:29 Rep. Dickenson  
02:56:47 Mr. Thamke  
02:57:10 Rep. Stahl  
02:57:16 Mr. Thamke  
02:58:40 Rep. Gallik  
02:58:59 Rep. Olson  
02:59:12 Mr. Thamke  
02:59:45 Rep. Gallik  
03:00:07 Mr. Fitzpatrick  
03:00:51 Rep. Stahl  
03:01:10 Mr. Fitzpatrick  
03:01:53 Rep. Stahl  
03:02:01 Mr. Fitzpatrick  
03:02:30 Rep. Olson  
03:08:14 Mr. Thamke  
03:08:55 Rep. Olson  
03:09:00 Rep. Gallik  
03:09:17 Rep. Windy Boy  
03:10:25 Mr. Chaffee

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:10:49 Rep. Dickenson  
**EXHIBIT**(feh11a18)

**ADJOURNMENT**

03:14:51 Adjournment

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REP. ALAN OLSON, Chairman

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CINDY PETERSON, Secretary

AO/cp